

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 AID-05 PC-01 /089 W

-----210248Z 102599 /64

R 201120Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3682

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CG, GW

SUBJECT: GENSCHER - MOBUTU PRESS CONFERENCE

1. WHILE IT IS NOT OUR PRACTICE TO REPEAT WHAT IS ALREADY IN FBIS, EMBASSY WISHES NEVERTHELESS TO DRAW ATTENTION TO SEVERAL POINTS MADE AT PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY MOBUTU AND GENSCHER DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO ZAIRE MAY 16-17.

2. MOBUTU STATED HE WOULD ATTEND FORTHCOMING OAU CONFERENCE IN LIBREVILLE. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT "HAVING LEARNED A LESSON ON THE DIPLOMATIC FRONT," AND CONSIDERING THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE OAU, HE WOULD NOT SEEK A DISCUSSION OF SHABA IN THAT FORUM. HE STRESSED ZAIRE'S POLICY OF GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS AND AGAIN ATTACKED THE SOVIET UNION FOR BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR SITUATION IN SHABA. HE ALSO REITERATED FACT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD DISARMED FNLA FORCES. OTHER ELEMENTS OF HIS INTERVIEW INCLUDED DETERMINATION OF ZAIRE TO IMPLEMENT IMF AND IBRD PROGRAMS FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY DESPITE DISRUPTION CAUSED BY CONFLICT, AND PRAISE FOR WEST GERMAN INVESTMENT IN THIS COUNTRY.

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3. GENSCHER FOR HIS PART NOTED FRG'S READINESS TO HELP ZAIRE OVERCOME ITS ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES (SEE SEPTTEL) AND ITS SUPPORT FOR EQUALITY, COOPERATION AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES.

4. IN SEPARATE PRESS BRIEFING, WHICH NOT REPORTED LOCALLY,

BUNDESTAG DEPUTY, JUERGEN MOELLEMANN, WHO HAD ACCOMPANIED GENSCHER, COMMENTED THAT THREE PLANE LOADS OF HUMANITARIAN AID FLOWN TO SHABA FROM GERMANY WERE STILL STORED IN WAREHOUSES IN LUBUMBASHI AND KOLWEZI AND HAD NOT YET BEEN DISTRIBUTED. HE ANNOUNCED THAT TWO MORE FLIGHTS OF AID WERE TO COME. A REMAINING 15 PLANE LOADS WERE FURTHER ANTICIPATED, BUT THEIR HANDLING WOULD BE DEPENDENT UPON CIRCUMSTANCES. THE GERMAN TOTAL CONTRIBUTION IS DM 5 MILLION IN FOOD AND MEDICINE, HE SAID.

5. COMMENT: ECON COUNSELOR HACHMEIER TOLD US THAT ONLY ABOUT FIVE PERCENT OF SHABA-RELATED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE WHICH HAD ARRIVED IN ZAIRE HAS ACTUALLY BEEN DISTRIBUTED, AS GERMANS INTEND TO TAKE EXTREME PRECAUTIONS TO INSURE THAT ALL AID GOES TO CIVILIAN POPULATION AND NONE TO MILITARY. TO BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, GERMANS ONLY PROVIDING DM 5 MILLION IN SHABA-RELATED ASSISTANCE. ADDITIONAL PLANE LOADS CITED BY MOELLEMANN WOULD, THEREFORE, BE REMAINDER OF ASSISTANCE BEING PROVIDED.
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